

bill by securing a list of amendments and notifying them of potential amendments to that bill.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 432, following the remarks of Senator DOMENICI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New Mexico.

ENERGY POLICY

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, first I want to say I will be very brief. I have told the Senate, as best I could, that I would try to take the floor every day and say something about America's energy crisis. So today I want to speak again for a couple of minutes.

A week ago, some of my colleagues from the other side of the aisle were down here on the Senate floor complaining because they wanted the administration to persuade OPEC to increase its production. They acted and spoke as if our President was not doing anything about it, and that they were going to have to direct him to do it.

Instead of passing an energy bill, Senators on the other side continue to blame the President for the high price of gasoline. This administration has been part of an announcement today which I think indicates the President is doing his job well. Saudi Arabia has announced it will ask OPEC to increase its production by 2 million barrels a day.

That is the first solid good news we have had in a long time. If it happens, if they can, I think it is obvious part of that will be due to the good relations between our President and the Saudis. In a sense, the President is working hard with the tools he has to help us through this energy crisis.

But the American people are still waiting for this Senate to deliver an energy bill. I have been trying to pass the Energy bill for more than a year. Some of the same Senators who wanted the administration to persuade OPEC to increase production, as if the President were doing nothing, are the very Senators who have blocked the Energy bill for more than a year. Each of them

seems to have one other reason that they will or will not vote for this energy bill. I am telling these Senators, the administration is doing everything it can to address oil prices, and they have asked us repeatedly to produce an energy bill.

If you don't like the President's suggestions, let's do something else. The Energy bill we produced was not exclusively the President's, though some on the other side continue to say they didn't like the President's and we have the President's bill here. That is not the case.

I again ask that the other side of the aisle seriously consider the proposition of sitting down with our side of the aisle and working through the Energy bill to see if we can't get together on an overwhelming portion of it so if the OPEC cartel reduces oil prices and we get some good news that it will not be temporary, it will not be a one-time event, but we can send a message to the world we are trying to solve our problem by bringing alternatives to the market in America.

If we told the world we were moving on natural gas and moving on coal and moving on nuclear and moving on wind energy and we are doing something for our electricity grid that is important and long term, they would react first in disbelief, because they wouldn't believe we could do it, and then, when it was done, there would be great relief in the world that America is doing something to help itself out of this crisis.

I commend to my colleagues an article from the June 2004 issue of the National Geographic, at page 84.

You wouldn't expect that to be the great source of this information, but it has the best article I have seen on oil today and oil in the future. It is called "The End Of Cheap Oil." It tells us what a problem we have in America if we do not solve our energy crisis.

Let me close by saying most of us think our oil and its related products all go to automobiles and transportation. If you read this article you will find only half goes to that. Half of America's use goes to a myriad of products, from plastics to all kinds of related products, including many in the semiconducting industry. That comes from oil. Fifty percent of our use is for products, for agriculture, and all kinds of things.

I suggest we ought to get on with it. Maybe we learned our lesson and we

don't have to come down here and try to blame the President and make this a political issue with reference to the White House, when, if the President wanted to go to the public every day, he could make sure they understood the truth. That is, it is our fault, not his.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY,
JUNE 1, 2004 at 10 A.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 1.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:39 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 1, 2004, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 21, 2004:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LINDA MORRISON COMBS, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

FRANCIS MULVEY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2007.

W. DOUGLAS BUTTREY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2008.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

THOMAS HILL MOORE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2003.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DEBORAH HERSMAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MILES T. BIVINS, OF TEXAS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO SWEDEN.

JOHN J. DANILOVICH, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL.

EARLE I. MACK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND.

JACK DYER CROUCH II, OF MISSOURI, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ROMANIA.

JENDAYI ELIZABETH FRAZER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA.

MITCHELL B. REISS, OF VIRGINIA, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS SPECIAL ENVOY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND.

VICTOR HENDERSON ASHE, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE. ◊